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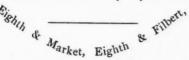
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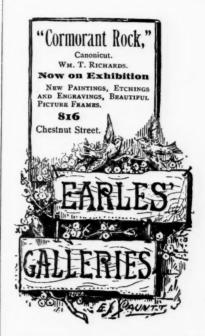
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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THAT the incoming President desires to begin his administration without having an extra session of Congress on his hands is the one thing that has been ascertained as to his wishes. But his friends in the House do not seem anxious to further his desires. Of the appropriation bills but two have reached the Senate, and one of the two has gone to the President for his signature. The West Point bill is easily disposed of, there being no party or sectional questions involved. The Pension bill is one in which both parties are to show their gento the soldiers, and, therefore, there is no dispute in any matter of policy. We are sorry to see the Senate putting amendments into this bill providing for a general increase of 50 per cent in the pensions paid to the the relatives of deceased soldiers. There may be a few cases in which the sum hitherto paid is not sufficient. But we have not heard a general outcry from that class of the nation's beneficiaries, and these cases might be met by a more careful classification. In most cases the money is less needed now than at the close of the war. Children have grown up, and are able to do more for the support of mothers and grandparents than they were then. And the sum actually paid purchases more in these years of low prices than it did ten

MUCH of the House's time and a good deal of its temper have been wasted on the River and Harbor bill. The committee which prepared that bill must have had a very mean opinion of the powers of penetration pos-sessed by the House and by the country. They knew that nothing Congress could do or propose would be subjected to a keener scrutiny, or might excite greater odium. And yet they allowed certain Southern members to load it down with provisions, whose mere publication excited a burst of mingled derision and indignation. The EADS clauses were especially vulnerable, and it seemed not improbable that this engineering Captain was to be elevated to the rank of a governmental department all under one hat. These have been thrown over by the committee itself, but they have not been abandoned without a great diminution of the legislative weight of the committee which reported them.

That we shall need to appropriate money every year for the care of our rivers and harbors is extremely probable. At least we shall continue to do so until we become consistent Free Traders and leave commerce as well as manufactures and agriculture to the "enlightened self-interest" of individuals and corporations. But the time has past

for a log-rolling measure such as is now reported yearly to the House of Representatives. The bill should be prepared by the engineering bureau of the Navy Department, and passed without an amendment or rejected as a whole.

IT seems to be assumed by the leaders of the majority in the House that a bill they have taken weeks to prepare and discuss should be disposed of in the Senate in as many hours. This is not the generally received idea as to the functions of the Senate. It is expected to proceed more deliberately and carefully than the House does. Its methods of debate are freer. And if the membership is much smaller, the men who make it up are more representative and more experienced than the great body of the House can be. There are but fifteen days of the session left. Is it expected that the Senat the will pass these bills rate of one a day, and adjourn without having the House vote on any of the important measures it has sent to it? Regard for its own dignity as at least a co-ordinate branch of the National Legislature, as well as a desire for the proper transaction of the public business, seems to suggest that the Senate should not take it for granted that all the appropriation bills shall be passed before the 4th of March. This may be inconvenient to the new administration and to the Democratic party; but it is not the interest of that party which should weigh heaviest in this

THE second failure of the friends of the Lowell Bankruptcy bill to secure its discussion in the House is to be regretted, although it was not unexpected. There is a cowardly fear of what the moneyed power may do to the people of the South and West, which makes them unwilling to establish any common arrangement for enforcing the obligations of debtors. Like most forms of cowardice, this one appeals to half comprehended experiences in the past. It is beyond doubt that the Western farmer got some pretty tight squeezing in the era of resumption of specie payments. He saw the mortgage on his farm increased from 30 to 50 per cent by the rise in the value of the currency, and he blamed this on the money-lenders in the East, who held the mortgage and profited by the change. So he begins to think-as the Scotch say-that he who sups soup with the devil needs a long spoon, and he fears a national bankrupt law as shortening the shank of the spoon.

THE Senate has had up for discussion the House bill for the retirement of the trade dollars, as reported with amendments from the proper committee. The failure to act on this bill was one of the serious omissions of last session. Another was the bill to keep out Coolie laborers imported from Europe by American capitalists. We hear nothing of the latter bill in the Senate. We hope it is not buried. If the Republican majority fail to act on it they will inflict a serious injury on the working class and on their own party.

Mr. Bayard appears as a principal opponent of any generous policy in dealing with the silver question. In this he has the backing, it is said, of the President-elect. Mr. CLEVELAND views silver from the Wall street point of view, as he does most questions of that class. He wants to see silver excluded from the coinage of the country and a gold basis substituted. This will not add to his popularity with his own party.

An industrial weekly has been investigating the make-up of the next House of Reppresentatives. Of one hundred and thirty-eight new members, ninety-one responded to its inquiries, and all but three of these support the policy of Protection. As there are seventy-nine Protectionists among the members who have been re-elected, this shows 166 votes which are pretty safe for the support of the Tariff. This a much better showing than in the present House, and makes the prospect of Free Trade legislation exceedingly remote.

As the time approaches for Mr. Cleve-LAND's accession to the Presidency the anxiety of his party as to his policy grows in intensity. At every point where he can be found there is a flock of Democratic statesmen urging the claims of their friends to higher offices, and especially to seats in the Cabinet. There seems to be a growing dismay among the leaders of the party the more they learn of the man whom their votes have made President. Being a man as good as outside the political life of the nation, he knows nothing of the relative magnitude of public men. Those who come to speak of the claims of such men as Mr. Mc-DONALD or Mr. THURMAN to a seat in the Cabinet are amazed to learn of the counter-claims of some Democratic nobody in Georgia or New Hampshire who has been seriously talked of as a candidate for a Governorship, but whose name never has been heard outside the councils of his own State. Nor does it do to insist on the palpable fact that men who already hold a place in national politics are the most suitable material to form a President's advisers. To press that argument too strongly is to reflect on Mr. CLEVELAND himself. It seems not unlikely that the party, having elevated a nobody to the chief office in the nation, must be content with a Cabinet of nobodies and an administration of nobodies.

That Mr. BAYARD has been offered some place, and will get the State Department if ne wants it, still seems probable. That Mr. Whitney is not to be Secretary of the Treasury seems to be said on good authority. That Mr. Hewitt is to get that place, is rumored. All else is uncertain and unknown.

A FRIEND calls our attention to the fact that the recently-organized Protective Tariff Club is not what is needed to counteract the operations of the Cobden Club in this country. Like the Industrial League, it is made up of the representatives of the protected industries. However useful it may be in pressing upon Congress the necessity for just legislation, it cannot be expected to do much in the matter of creating and shaping public opinion. For that purpose we need an organization much more miscellaneous in its character. It must embrace men of letters, editors, divines, lawyers and statesmen. no less than manufacturers. The expressions of Protectionist opinion elicited by the discussions of the last campaign show there is ample material in this country for such a club as this, and we hope to see it organized at an early date.

THE year begins with a moderate trade at the port of New York. The imports there during the month of January were but 291/2 millions (\$29,615,123), this being the smallest since 1879, when they were four millions less. As compared with January of last year there is a falling off of 81/2 millions, the total then being \$38,085,320. For the seven months of the fiscal year (begun July 1, 1884), the total imports at New York have been 244 millions, as against 2741/2 millions for the corresponding period of last year, and 2891/4 millions for 1883. The falling off is largely in dry goods, the fact being that the very low prices of ordinary goods in this country make it impracticable for the foreign factories to put so much upon our markets, and that, besides, money is not so plentiful here for the purchase of expensive silks and velvets and brocades. It all tells to our advantage in the balancing of our foreign accounts.

THREE important national conventions have recently been in session. One in the interests of silver has been sitting at Denver, and has been trying to impress on the country the necessity for maintaining that metal in our coinage. The country is agreed as to this main proposition, but not as to the best means of doing it. A great many sound bi-metalists think the cessation of silver coinage would help.

The National Board of Trade has met at Washington. It endorsed the Treaty with Mexico, deferred action on the other treaties of reciprocity, and approved of Mr. FRYE's bill to subsidize American steamships through the Post Office.

The Grand Army of the Republic expressed its disapproval of the bill to pension, at the rate of \$8 a month, every surviving soldier of the Union Army. This gives the

quietus to as rank a piece of demagoguery as has appeared recently in Congress. It also shows that the Free Traders are mistaken in declaring that the existence of a surplus is demoralizing the soldiers of the war.

THE New York Board of Health has just wakened up to the discovery that great quantities of adulterated quinine are sold to the people of that city, at the price of the genuine article. So, the doctors of this and other States have been warning the country for years past. So long as we had a protective duty on quinine the genuine American article held the market, and every physician knew what he was prescribing. The repeal of the duty threw open the market to inferior and adulterated preparations from France and Germany, which have been sold at current prices, by druggists of the less honorable type, ever since. Free Trade in quinine has cost many an unfortunate sufferer his health, and will cost the same to many another before the duty is restored.

The Beacon, of Boston, illustrates its geniality of temper by finding fault with the sharp terms in which we spoke of Mr. YATES and his sentence to imprisonment for libel. We are sorry to say we cannot agree with our Boston contemporary on this point. We read The World at one time, and were obliged to cease doing so out of regard for our own moral culture. We think Mr. THOMAS HUGHES quite justified in speaking-in his last letter to The Week of Toronto-of "the sort of loathsome gossip and scandal of the passing hour which the society papers purvey." And we are glad to know that neither in Boston nor in Philadelphia would such society papers as Truth and The World be tolerated.

"An open winter" is the great desire of some weather-wise people. This has been an open winter emphatically. It has been opening a fresh sack of bad weather of some new kind every week. The only kind wanting is the old-fashioned snow storm which sets the sleigh bells ringing, hops up the winter wheat from the frost and soaks downward to fill the springs. And our open winter has been extremely unhealthy. Old people have dropped off with pneumonias as in no other winter for many years past. There has been a great prevalence of sickness, although no epidemic like diphtheria or smallpox. Altogether we have had good reason for not wanting another "open winter" next time.

THE pressure upon the Legislature in the form of a petition for an amendment to the school law making instruction in temperperance hygiene compulsory in the schools, has been very strong, and the Senate yesterday passed the bill by a vote of 40 to 0. In the House a similar bill was on second reading, but on the motion of Mr. Faunce, who suggested that it might contain "a big book job," it was postponed for the present.

Whether any particular book on the effects of taking liquor into the system is meant to be used, if the bill passes, has not been made clear, but it may be questioned whether there is yet any general authority upon this sub-

ject entitled to unquestioned acceptance. There are different opinions amongst physicians as to the employment of alcohol as medicine, and even as to the use, especially by persons of advanced years, of some form of spirits. As to the merits of this controversy we express no opinion, but the suggestion is obvious that in the event of the passage of the bill judicious care should be exercised to procure for the schools some text book which presents the facts of science. and not mere theories. That children should be encouraged to avoid the use of liquor will be the judgment of the vast majority of good people, but that they should base their opposition upon erroneous representations of science would be a misfortune. What book is it that the petitioners for the bill have in view?

THERE is one feature in the Reading Railroad case deserving particular attention at this time, viz., the possibility of foreclosure, which is clearly the alternative of the reorganization now in progress, and which may be preferred by some persons, interested or otherwise. But it is plain that if the road were sold it would be the holders of the general mortgage, or some of them, who would become its owners. If so unfavorable a view should be taken as to the road's future that the proposed reorganization could not be effected, it is certain that no liens later than the general mortgage could expect to secure anything from the wreck. Probably the purchase under foreclosure might be at so low a price that those general mortgage holders who could not or would not participate in the purchase would get but a percentage of the face of their bonds.

The consequence of these facts is very simple. The general mortgage holders being obliged to take the road, the burden and the control would fall upon those of their number who, by reason of heavy holdings, represent the great bulk of this class of indebtedness. But these are the very creditors who have already published their consent to and approval of the reorganization. It amounts to this, therefore, that the first mortgage creditors are the parties who are at the front, and who naturally must remain there until either a settlement or a sale is effected. If it is to be a settlement, the majority of them agree to the plan suggested by the Whelen and the Directors' Committees-modified as to the sinking fund feature; while, if it should be a foreclosure the same persons would be necessarily in control of the proceeding.

It is fairly assured that there will be a wise union of forces in favor of the just and judicious plan of reorganization which is offered, and we do not apprehend that anything will break the force of the present strong movement. But we simply point out that the large creditors who have now, after due examination, assented to the reorganization, must necessarily be called on again if the foreclosure alternative were adopted.

At the hearing before the Master representing the U. S. District Court in the Reading Railroan business, the testimony of all parties has been substantially to one effect—the necessity of keeping together the prop-

erty of the company. A break in this policy was urged by one party who desired that no interest should be paid on such of the floating debt as may be secured by unproductive collateral. The obvious answer to this was that given by Mr. Wharton that because stocks or bonds were at the present moment unproductive was not a sufficient reason for regarding them as "worthless," nor was it sufficient ground for making a rule that in all cases of such security the loan should be abandoned by the company and the sale of the collateral be permitted.

The fact is that there are two ways open for the Reading, and only two. One is to pursue the plan of holding things together, and by an amicable reduction of the burden of fixed charges, such as is proposed, enable the corporation to bring its finances into good This is practicable, and it is wise. The other plan is to disintegrate, to break up the extensive fabric of the Reading Company and leave it simply a collection of detached pieces. This plan, if once entered upon, will go forward, of course, to its sure end. If, for instance, the floating debt loans of the company are not to be protected and dealt with in a business-like manner, the already impaired credit of the corporation will be destroyed. It has been and is a large borrower. It must deal with its debts in a straightforward and precise way, or it can-not borrow at all. The process of disintegration may begin at that point as well as any other.

Fortunately for those who are creditors of Reading, and fortunately also for the public interests, the temper of all who are deeply concerned in the business is that of reasonable and practical men. The inclination, as shown by the proceedings before the Master, to disintegrate and break up, in the hope that somebody may snatch a profitable morsel from the wreck, is little manifested, while the better and more judicious spirit of preservation from waste and loss prevails.

THE people of Maine, by their representatives, have decided not to transfer their State election from September to November. The State is still to be the scene of those preliminary contests which give zest to politics in Presidential years. The Advertiser, of Portland, Me., Mr BLAINE's old paper, gives what it alleges to be the reason for this decision. Mr. BLAINE's friends in Maine hope to see their candidate renomiby the Republican party They, therefore, retain Maine 1888. as a September State, until after that year, so as to give him a good "send off." The reason is worse than the decision based on it. It would be simply suicidal for the Republican party to make Mr. BLAINE its candidate a second time. He could not command anything like the strength he did last year. The arguments which led so many Republicans to refuse him their support had nearly as much weight with multitudes who voted for him. Those arguments would be decisive in case of his renomination. Mr. BLAINE has had his chance. His nomination was a mistake, as with any other of a half dozen possible candidates the party would have elected the President. The notion that it is going to repeat that mistake must be the delusion of a small number of minds. The rest agree with HOSEA WILBUR that it's wasting yeast to put it into dough that did not rise the first time.

NEW YORK city has some queer ways of procedure. In the session of the Legislature a year ago, a bill was passed to deprive the Mayor of the power to appoint certain officials at the close of his term of office. This bill was vetoed by Governor CLEVE-LAND, and thus failed to become a law. Yet the Courts of the city, at the close of Mayor EDSON's term of office, enjoined him from exercising this power which the Legislature had failed to take from him. Mr. EDSON ignored the injunction and made the appointment. For this he has been sentenced to fine and imprisonment for contempt of Court. Our readers will recall the similar case of an injunction laid on the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen, to prevent their proceeding to an election which the law authorized them to make. It thus seems that the judiciary of these two cities is not a co-ordinate branch of the government, but is supreme over all other departments. It can interpose to forbid an executive officer doing that which the law plainly requires him to do. If this be New York practice, we no longer wonder at the power exercised by Judge BARNARD at the instance of Mr. THOMAS SHEARMAN in behalf of the Erie Railroad.

In Illinois and Oregon the business of electing a United States Senator proceeds very slowly. In Oregon the blame rests with the Republicans, who are divided in the support of a great number of small candidates. As Portland, the capital, has the other Senator, the country districts have made up their minds that this one must come from some other quarter. But no other quarter has a man big enough to command the suffrages of the whole Legislature. Portland is fortunate to have secured even one. In Pennsylvania it has been a fixed maxim that neither Philadelphia nor Pittsburg shall furnish a Senator.

In Illinois the even balance of the two parties has been destroyed by the serious illness of a Democratic member of the Legislature. But the Democrats seem strong enough and determined enough to prevent the settlement of the matter until that member recovers, or his place is filled by a fresh election after his death. Mr. Logan and Mr. Morrison are candidates of the two party caucuses, but it seems doubtful if either will secure the solid support of his own party.

THERE seems to be no doubt that the State Treasury of Kentucky has been suffering for years past from a series of peculations carried on by the politicians of the Democratic party. The same probably is true of every State in which the independent treasury system is in vogue. There is no better plan for combining the maximum of temptation with the minimum of danger of discovery than to gather the whole revenue of the State into a single receptacle, isolated from the banking system of the State. When Treasurer Polk was detected in Tennessee

it was found that he had been following the example set him by his predecessors in office for many years back. Let Kentucky take warning, and assimilate her fiscal methods to those of civilized communities.

THE Academy of Medicine is an institution which exists to secure a high standard of both general and technical education among our physicians. No doctor is eligible to membership who is not a man of liberal education, and the influence of the organization has been used to raise the standard of professional culture. Dr. FORDYCE BARKER, in resigning the Presidency this year, made a very sensible suggestion as to the best course for the States to follow in this matter. He recognized the force of the objections made to the examination of candidates for a medical degree by outside Boards of physicians created by the State. In America, as in Germany, it is a fixed tradition and a wise one, that examinations shall be conducted by those who have done the teaching. This is our last safe-guard against the cram system, which is ruining English education. Dr. BARKER suggests the creation of a Board to examine not the graduates but the institution, and to pronounce upon the adequacy of the examinations prescribed for a degree in medicine. This would meet the difficulty exactly. It would create a kind of medical grand jury, with power to visit and report upon every institution chartered to give medical instruction. And its reports would not need to be reinforced by power to suspend the conferring of degrees. That hardly could be done under the existing charters, nor would it be necessary. The simple announcement by a competent and impartial authority that the course in any institution was inadequate would compel a change. It would put an end to much that is called medical education, and which is "but a decenter way of selling a degree.

THE two recent additions to the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania have given general satisfaction. Professor MACALISTER, the Superintendent of the Public Schools, has deserved admission to the Board by the large-minded devotion to the cause of education generally he has shown since he came to Philadelphia. His new position will aid in bringing the public schools and the University into closer and more harmonious relations-an object he is said to have greatly at heart. All the Western States are following the example of New England in establishing intermediate links between the school and college systems. In our city there is no such link, except the Towne School of the University. As one consequence of this very few of the four hundred churches of this city have pastors born in the city, and if the city were thrown upon its own resources it would have to shut half its churches. We are practically a home mission field for churches of other regions to supply with ministers of the Gospel. Another result is that fewer of our lawyers and physicians with every year, are men of liberal culture. The men who made the reputation of these two professions in Philadelphia were men of the finest education. A majority of their successors have had a technical training only.

The election of Mr. John C. Sims must be a source of gratification to the Alumni of the University, whose nominee he was. Mr. Sims has shown a genuine and hearty interest in the University from the time of his graduation, which it would be well for the institution if it were more general. Not that he is singular in this. There is a large body among the younger Alumni who have been equally loyal to the interests of their Alma Mater, and upon whom she can call as fast as vacancies occur in the governing board.

An address by Rev. A. D. Mayo, who has been giving particular attention to the work of popular education in the South, has been reprinted by the U. S. Bureau of Education, and sent out as one of its circulars of information. Mr. Mayo takes a hopeful view as to the progress which is making in this work; he is especially encouraged by the cheerful interest with which he finds people respond to the appeals made to them on the subject. "The inward ear of the South," he says, "is now awaiting this mighty call, all ready to respond."

THE proposals of the British West Indian islands for a Treaty of reciprocity with the United States have been vetoed by the British Cabinet. Earl Derby, the Colonial Secretary, approved of the proposal, although he preferred to have the islands join the Dominion of Canada. When they refused to do so he saw no reason for not securing them any commercial advantages they could get by a treaty with this coun-The Cabinet differed from him for two good reasons. The first is that such treaties are inconsistent with the principles of Free Trade, or indeed with any other principle. RICARDO emphasized this half a century ago, but Free Traders generally have ignored his reasoning. The Anglo-French Treaty of 1860 was made in defiance of the principles held by Mr. Cobden, its chief author. In this case the British Government is the readier to admit the force of the objection, because it is Free Trade with England that would be restricted by the proposed arrangement. The islands asked leave to consider their interests as a thing apart from those of the mother country in negotiating for reciprocity with us. The second reason is that the United States, being about to negotiate similar treaties with other countries of South America, the islands would derive no advantage from securing reciprocity. That is to say, reciprocity is a game in which the exclusive advantages offered for concessions are made worthless through being extended to other nations for similar concessions. We commend this logic to the House of Representatives in considering the bill to give effect to the treaty with Mexico. What advantage does that treaty even promise to secure to us, which has not been traded off to England in exchange for certain concessions to Mexico? But this reasoning, sound as it is, seems to weigh more with England when her colonies are concerned than when she is negotiating for herself. Witness the recent reciprocity treaty with Spain, in which she secured better terms for her cottons and

hardwares in exchange for concessions as to the duties on Spanish wines.

THE German Emperor in his speech at the opening of the Reichstag, speaks of readjusting the burdens of taxation so as to lighten that borne by the poorer classes. CHAMBERLAIN makes a similar proposal in England, and finds it received as though he had suggested the establishment of communism. The English system of taxation is a crying iniquity. By far the greater part of the English revenue is levied upon articles universally in use among the poorest classes. Tea, coffee, tobacco and sugar, as well as beer and spirits, are heavily assessed, and England draws a larger revenue from these excises and customs than any other country in the world. At the same time not a single duty is so imposed as to favor English industry, increase employment for the poor, or keep up wages. It is all take and no give, so far as the English workman is concerned. for government out He pays proportion to his ability. taxes levied on articles he consumes are from three to ten times greater in proportion to his income, than the taxes paid in every shape by the rich man. Thus the first canon of taxation laid down by ADAM SMITH is violated, and English economists seek all sorts of excuses for treating as an impossible ideal the principle that each man's contribution to the expenses of government should be in some sort of proportion to his ability to pay.

The London news-mongers, in telegraphing a summary of Mr. Lowell's recent speech before the Society of Arts, gave us only so much as indicated his faith in our ability to hold our own under Free Trade. A notable part of his speech related to the superiority of our manufactures to those of England. This fact has been remarked by Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR, and by Professor ROULEAUX, of Berlin. The Pall Mall Gazette thinks that when once we enter upon international competition with England for the trade of the world, it is likely that we will lose this superiority. It says: "May that not be that to some extent a result of the American want of foreign trade with people who do not know good things from bad, and only ask for cheap things, which has done so much to degrade English manu-The acute Yankee purchaser keeps his producing countrymen up to the

So American Brotectionists have said often enough. It is the first time we have found an English Free Trader admitting that dependence upon foreign markets leads to a general degeneracy in the quality of manufactured goods. It is perfectly true that Free Trade is the natural parent of "cheap and nasty." Once, when England was a Protectionist country, her wares were vaunted as "good-cheap." Now the second half of this compound adjective is dropped. They are commended as merely "cheap," and the intelligent consumer adds "and nasty." Professor ROULEAUX says have escaped this by refusing to accept the Free Trade idea of mere cheapness.

THE excitement in London over the dynamite explosions gave way to a far more intense feeling over the news that Khartoum had fallen and that Gordon had been killed in the taking of the city. As later dispatches clear up the earlier, it appears that the city was captured January 29th, through the treachery of two of General Gordon's trusted native subordinates, and that he himself was killed as he stepped from the Government House to take command of the defense. The English detachment which approached the city saw no British flag flying, and found themselves in the presence of an overwhelming force of EL MAHDI'S troops. They withdrew, not without some losses, and other losses have occurred through the vigorous fire on the steamboats employed to transport troops and arms. One detachment was wrecked on an island and rescued only by the gallantry of Lord BERES-FORD and his command.

We have expressed elsewhere our reasons for not joining in the general lamentation over the fall of Khartoum. against the vicious abuse of words by even onr American newspapers in calling the Soudanese "rebels." They are entitled to the symyathy and moral support of mankind, while no excuse is possible for the conclusion reached by the English Cabinet at the meeting held to "avenge" this disaster. If General GORDON be still alive-as some reports represent—General Wolseley is to bring the campaign to a close without any needless fighting, and the English hero is to be ransomed at whatever cost of money or strategic concession. If he be dead, the war is to be prosecuted until the "insurrection" has been suppressed utterly. Such a decision is wrong on any theory of English rights and duties If England has the duty of reducing Soudan on her hands, she is bound to execute it, whatever may have be-come of GORDON. If, as trustee for the Khedive, she is responsible for the maintenance of his authority over this province, then she has no right to barter its fortresses for the safety of an English general. If she is not in the Soudan in that capacity and under that obligation, then she has no right to fire a gun more than is needed to effect the safe withdrawal of her troops. To begin afresh the conquest of the Soudan in revenge for the death of General GORDON is far more immoral than the policy of revanche, which English publicists find fault with France for cherishing.

To find troops for such a war in the Soudan is by no means easy at the present moment. Not a man can be spared from the army which is holding the Irish people under an alien rule. Not a regiment can be taken from the still larger army which maintains an alien rule in India in the face of growing discontent. The best recruiting grounds at home have been lost by the land policy, which drove the Scotch peasantry to America and the colonies.

In this juncture the House of Savoy recalls its ancient traditions to be friend some stronger power in every great emergency, and to use that power for its own aggrandisement when the emergency is over. Italy wants Tripoli to balance the French acquisition of Tunis. There is no power but England that will help her to get it. So Italy alone offers co-operation in Egpyt, at least so far as to replace English garrisons in Egypt with Italian troops, so that the English soldiers may be spared for service "at the front." Turkey objects, knowing that all this means Tripoli next year. But England and Italy will be more than a match for the Sultan.

FRANCE makes a generous use of this emergency by raising her demands with reference to the settlement of Egyptian finance. She wants not only the special international commission to verify the statements England has made with reference to the finances of the country, but a permanent commission to secure the neutralization of the Suez Canal. As before the fall of Khartoum she had agreed to accept the English statements as the basis of a readjustment, there is no room for a misconstruction of her conduct. The French make great claims to generosity, but they can be unutterably mean upon occasions if it be safe.

In the Congo matter also the Khartoum disaster is felt severely. The prestige of England as a principal supporter of the International Association has fallen. That of France, as its chief opponent, has risen proportionally. Portugal has taken the opportunity to seize territory she has claimed as her own, but in the face of the denials of the association. And the death of General Gordon deprives the association of the man to whom it looked for the execution of its plans. He was on the point of starting for the Congo when the English Government sent him on a fool's errand to the Soudan.

SOUDAN FOR THE SOUDANESE.

The personal interest felt in General Gorpon, and in the brave men who have been put in peril for his rescue, must not blind us to the real merits of the issue which is to be fought out on the Upper Nile. The rights of the people of that country to manage their own affairs in their own way is just as clear as the right of any other people under heaven. General Gordon is a foreign interloper, who had no business at Khartoum. The English in Egypt are foreign interlopers, who have no business there, as they have none in India, and as the French have none in Madagascar. And the responsibility for the bloodshed which has already taken place and may yet take place on the Upper Nile, rests not with EL MAHDI and his "rebels," who have the clearest claim to the moral support and sympathy of mankind.

England invaded Egypt in the interest purely of a set of English and French usurers, of whom the Hon. George Jacob Goschen is the chief. She went into Egypt to put down the resistance of the people to the demands of these usurers. That resistance was of the weakest kind. It was the assertion of the right of the Egyptian authorities to control the budget, in so far as this did not concern the payment of interest on the debt. On this demand Arabi Bey and his associates took their staud, with the open support of the Khedive. Whatever Tewfik Pasha may have said in secret, he

gave public support to the demands of the national party. And it is a rule of international law that nothing but a public demand for aid against insurgents can justify the interference of a foreign power. Besides this, the national party were not insurgents. They recognized the authority of the Khedive, and if they had any quarrel with him it was that he himself was disposed to limit his authority unduly.

his authority unduly.

The response from England to the just and reasonable demand of the Egyptian notables was the bombardment of Alexandria, the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, and the trial and banishment of the popular leader. We do not believe that Mr. GLADSTONE understood the situation when he sanctioned these measures. He is a statesman whose attention is fixed on home questions, as it ought to be. As he recently admitted, he knew very little of the situation of affairs in Ireland, until Irish obstruction and Irish dynamite forced him to take up Irish questions seriously. Egyptians had neither obstruction nor dynamite among their resources, and therefore he took matters at second hand with them. We believe it was chiefly by the authority of Mr. Goschen, who had gone to Egypt as the agent of the bondholders, that the English Cabinet was induced to take a hostile attitude towards the national party. It now is freer to admit that that party was substantially in the right. It has found the administration of Egyptian Government altogether impossible, unless a limit be set to the claims of the bondholders. The whole revenue of Egypt, though extorted by taxation even worse than is known in India, will just about furnish money to pay the interest on the debt. Hardly a penny would be left to pay the expense of governing the country.

The fall of ARABI BEY was the rise of EL MAHDI. Soudan was conquered by Egypt in 1819. It was brought under a Moslem government and added to the dominions of the Caliph at Constantinople. Recent events have reversed these conditions. The rights of Turkey over Egypt have been substantially ended. The authority of the Khedive himself has been superseded by boards of European officials. To Moslems a change like this is a tremendous calamity. In the opinion of the stricter doctors of their law. to live in such a country after such a change is to incur eternal damnation. It was natural that the uprising in the Soudan should take a religious coloring. But at heart it is substantially national. the assertion by a brave people of their right to their national existence. So much even Mr. GLADSTONE has admitted. Yet, even after that admission, he allowed the pressure of the war party to control his policy so far as to send General Gordon to Khartoum. There was no sane reason for his mission. England already had avowed her readiness to leave Khartoum to its own people. Her ill-luck in trying to penetrate it from the Red Sea had helped her to this conclusion. What General Gorpon was to achieve on the Upper Nile nobody could say. There was a vague notion that he had an unbounded influence over half-civilized people, and that his presence at Khartoum would change the face of affairs in some miraculous way. The result showed that his influence had very distinct bounds, and that in the presence of Moslem "zeal" it amounted to but little more than nothing.

We cannot deplore the result. The victories of El Mahdi have been won in a just cause. A people has a right to its own existence under leaders of its own choice. That is what the Soudanese are fighting for—the cause of nationality. We believe in it in Germany, in Italy, in Poland, in Ireland and in the Soudan. The life of a nation is not less, but more sacred than the life of a man, or of myriads of men, even though every one of them were a Gordon.

ANOTHER WESTERN TRUNK LINE.

The trunk line connections of Philadelphia with the West are about to receive an important accession. The construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Company's line between Baltimore and this city is now well advanced, and the time when its facilities will be offered to the business of Philadelphia is not distant.

Philadelphia has long suffered for want of railroad competition. Other cities, better supplied with Western lines, have grown at our expense. The class of great merchants here-houses selling largely to the interior and the far West-such as are found in New York and Boston, has declined within twenty years past, not only relatively, but absolutely, having found it impossible to maintain itself with the service of a single Western road. New York enjoys the facilities of no less than five trunk lines. For her trade westward and returning the New York Central, the West Shore, the Erie, the Lackawanna and the Pennsylvauia lines compete, and thus served, the merchants of New York have increased their business and have added to the great commercial importance of their city, while the merchants of Philadelphia have seen their wholesale trade decline and their commerce struggle to maintain itself. Against the advantages of a city having five trunk lines they, with but a single line, could not contend.

Philadelphia is now offered her second line. The prospect for her trade, inland and on the sea, is once more broadened and brightened. The Baltimore and Ohio management will ask for such municipal authority to enter the city as will enable it to offer freight and passenger facilities equal to the best. It will build its road in the most substantial manner. As to the crossings at grade, against which there is much and reasonable objection, it does not propose to cross streets at grade at all. Upon this point we are able to give a conclusive assurance, and the public attention, relieved as to this detail, may be directed to the larger and essential matter.

The enjoyment of a new road of the first class to the West, built in the most thorough manner, provided with the best equipment, and having such a position as to its terminal that its freight and passenger service offered the public will be second to none, will mark the opening of a new era in Philadelphia's affairs. This is an important moment, therefore, for the city Every one interested

in her prosperity is interested in the early completion of the new line, and in granting to it such formal authority to enter the municipal jurisdiction as will enable it to fully carry out its plans for the accommodation of the public.

EDGAR ALLAN POE.*

No literary man in America has been so thoroughly written about as Poe. The "Lives" of Stoddart, Didier, Ingram, Gill, and now this of Mr. George E. Woodberry, are elaborate affairs; there are the full memoirs of Willis, Griswold, Lowell, Hirst and Mrs. Whitman; and there are, besides, innumerable chapters of reminiscences of the poet. All this implies a corresponding interest in the subject, and it will not do, as some critics are disposed to do, to pooh-pooh this curiosity in one of the most genuine topics of literary concern that was ever opened. Mr. Ingram's "Life"—the latest previous to this time-was pronounced a very adequate piece of work, yet Mr. Woodberry shows that Ingram by no means covered the ground. This very latest life of Poe is practically a new book. It includes quantities of letters and information from personal sources now printed for the first time, and it makes one of the most fascinating and at the same time one of the most painful pieces of literary biography ever published.

But while it is unquestionably fuller than any of the previous Lives or Memoirs of the poet, it may be doubted if it any more surely any of the previous Lives or Memoirs of the poet, it may be doubted if it any more surely explains the nature of this wayward genius. It paints its subject, to be sure, in uncompromising colors. Griswold has taken an unenviable place in literary history as a man who venally and maliciously defamed his friend, but the suspicion that Poe's first biographer was hardly used by the world is emphasized by Mr. Woodberry's book. Not only that, but Mr. Woodberry's book. Not only that, but Mr. Woodberry, while joining in the chase for poor Griswold, says himself harder and more damaging things of his subject. Poe is reconvicted in these pages not only of the vices which caused his death at an age when he should have been in his productive prime, but also of gross dishonesty and shameful and persistent untruth. Mr. Woodberry says—and proves—that Poe's unsupported word on any subject relating to himself could never be relied upon, and he gives manifold instances of the poet's dishonesty in selling the same literary wares over and over. Details of debauchery are given with a fullness never before attempted, and proofs of Poe's addiction to opium are added. In short Griswold seems after all given with a fullness never before attempted, and proofs of Poe's addiction to opium are added. In short, Griswold seems after all these years to be completely vindicated, though it appears to have been no part of Mr. Woodberry's intention to do that act of justice. It is, indeed, not easy to understand Mr. Woodberry's attitude as Poe's biographer. He has no faith whatever in his subject as a man, and a rather restricted belief in him as a literary artist. Now belief, enthusiasm even, we believe to be essential to the striking of fire in such a task. Mr. Woodberry's doubt, we may say prejudice, is so strong that possibly in his effort to do justice all around he may influence his reader in the wrong way. Thus we think of his book, conscientious as it is and undeniably fuller in documentary matter than any of its preconscientious as it is and undeniably fuller in documentary matter than any of its predecessors, that it has not even yet said all there is to say. Strange as it may sound after such a careful performance, there is now even more room than ever for another life of Poe—one that shall combine all the

*EDGAR ALLAN POE. By George E. Woodberry. ("American Men of Letters" Series.) Hough-ton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

facts of these many volumes and cast about for a more charitable and human exposition of motive.

Among the new matters in Mr. Wood-berry's "Life" we find this:

Among the new matters in Mr. Woodberry's "Life" we find this:

"Poe found himself a youth of 18, poor and friendless, in the city of his birth, and without means of self-support. In this extremity he took the readiest way out of his difficulties, and on May 26, 1828, enlisted at Boston in the army of the United States as a private soldier, under the name of Edgar A. Perry. He stated that he was born at Boston and was by occupation a clerk; and although minors were then accepted into the service, he gave his age as 22 years. He had, says the record, gray eyes, brown hair and a fair complexion, and was five feet eight inches in height. He was at once assigned to Battery H, of the First Artillery, then serving in the harbor at Fort Independence; on October 31st the battery was ordered to Fort Moultrie, Charleston, S. C., and exactly one year later was again transferred to Fotress Monroe, Va. The character of Poe's life during this period can now be but imperfectly made out, since the officers under whom he served are dead; but from papers presently to be given it appears that he discharged his duties as Company Clerk and assistant in the Commissariat Department so as to win the good will of his Superiors, and was in all respects a faithful and efficient soldier. On January I, 1829, he was appointed Sergeant-Major, a promotion which, by the invariable custom of the army, was made only for morit."

He was honorably discharged from the army soon after this, at the request of his

was made only for morit.

He was honorably discharged from the army soon after this, at the request of his guardian, Mr. John Allan. Of Poe's life at West Point some interesting fresh facts are given, among the rest this passage from a recollection of a classmate, furnished the author.

author:

"He was very shy and reserved in his intercourse with his fellow-cadets—his associates being confined almost exclusively to Virginians. He was an accomplished French scholar, and had a wonderful aptitude for mathematics, so that he had no difficulty in preparing his recitations in his class and in obtaining the highest marks in these departments. He was a devourer of books, but his great fault was his neglect of and apparent contempt for military duties. His wayward and capricious temper made him at times utterly oblivious or indifferent to the ordinary routine of roll-call, drills and guard duties. These habits subjected him often to arrest and punishment, and effectually prevented his learning or discharging the duties of a soldier."

So, his record as a private and as a cadet

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So, his record as a private and as a cadet is somewhat contradictory. As is well known, Poe threw over his fine opportunity for securing a thorough education at West Point, as he neglected other opportunities which Mr. Allan stood ready to provide him. Of his practical ability Mr. Woodberry gives numerous examples such as the following relating to his connection with Graham's Magazine, in this city:

"Whether his piquant criticisms and powerful tales made Graham popular, or whether its success was due to the shrewd business sagacity and generous advertisement of its owners, the magazine had at once a brilliant run. It had opened with a circulation of eight thousand in January, 1811; in July it had risen to seventeen thousand; in December (at which time the names of Mrs. Emma C. Embury and Mrs. Ann S. Stephens were added to those of George R. Graham, C. J. Peterson and Edgar A. Poe, as editors) it was twenty-five thousand, and in March forty thousand—in each case according to the public aanouncement in the magazine itself. Poe was the working editor during this time, and is fairly entitled to a considerable, if not the main, share in the success in the undertaking."

Altogether, Poe's life in Philadelphia was Altogether, Poe's life in Philadelphia was about the least troubled period of his career. There was a plentiful lack of money, and there were his chronic quarrels with his employers, but his habits at that time were comparatively good. At that period began the correspondence with Mr. J. R. Lowell, now first offered to the public, and which gives such a particular interest to this volume. Almost at the outset of the acquaintance Poe proposed to Lowell a scheme for literary co-operation, which remained a pet literary co-operation, which remained a pet project of his to the very end. We give one of his letters on this subject:

"Suppose a dozen of the most active or influen-tial men of letters in this country should unite

for the purpose of publishing a magazine of high character. Their names to be kept secret, that their mutual supportmight be the more effectual. Each member to take a share of the stock at \$100 a share. Each, if required, to furnish one article each month—the work to be sustained altogether by the contributions of the members, or by unpaid contributions from others. As many of the members as possible to be taken from those connected otherwise with the press; a black-ball to exclude any one suggested as a member by those already conjoined—this to secure unamimity. These, of course, are mere hints in the rough. But suppose that (the scheme originating with yourself and me) we write to any others, or, seeing them personally, engage them in the enterprise. The desired number being made up, a meeting might be held and a constitution framed. A point in this latter might be that an editor should be elected periodically from among the stockholders.

A point in this latter might be that an eutor should be elected periodically from among the stockholders.

"The advantages of such a coalition seem to me very great. The magazine could be started with a positive certainty of success. There would be no expense for contributions, while we would have the best. Plates, of course, would be disdained. The aim would be to elevate without stupefying our literature; to further justice; to resist foreign dictation; and to afford (in the circulation and profit of the journal) a remuneration to ourselves for whatever we should write.

"The work should be printed in the very best manner, and should address the aristocracy of talent. We might safely give, for \$5, a pamphlet of 128 pages, and, with the support of the variety of our personal influence, we might easily extend the circulation to 20,000—giving \$100,000. The expenses would not exceed \$40,000—fi indeed they reached \$20,000 when the work should be fairly established. Thus there would be \$60,000 to be divided among twelve—\$5000 per annum apiece. I have thought of this matter long and cautiously, and am persuaded that there would be little difficulty in doing even far more than I have ventured to suggest."

We had marked some other passages for

We had marked some other passages for quotation, including the vivid account of the death scene given by Dr. J. J. Moran, of the Baltimore City Hospital, in a letter to Mrs. Clemm, but must forbear. Room must be made, however, for one more extract from the manuscript letters. Cotemporary with the Lowell correspondence we have letters between Poe and Mr. Charles F. Briggs, who published a short-lived literary paper in New York, called The Broadway Journal, for which Poe did some of his finest work. At the beginning of their acquaintance Briggs was disposed to like Poe very much. A few months afterward he wrote to Lowell in these terms: We had marked some other passages for these terms:

was disposed to like 1'00 very much. A new months afterward he wrote to Lowell in these terms:

"You have formed a correct estimate of Poe's characterless character. I have never met a person so utterly deficient of high motive. He cannot conceive of anybody's doing anything, except for his own personal advantage; and he says, with perfect sincerity and entire unconsciousness of the exposition which it makes of his own mind and heart, that he looks upon all reformers as madmen; and it is for this reason that he is so great an egotist. He cannot conceive why the world should not feel an interest in whatever interests him, because he feels no interest himself in what does not personally concern him. Therefore, he attributes all the favor which Longfellow, yourself or anybody else receives from the world, and the lack of that favor in himself he attributes to the world's malignity. It is too absurd for belief, but he really thinks that Longfellow owes his fame mainly to the ideas which he has borrowed from his (Poe's) writings in the Southern Literary Messenger. His presumption is beyond the liveliest imagination. He has no reverence for Homer, Shakespeare or Milton, but thinks that "Orion" is the greatest poem in the language. He has too much prudence to put his opinions into print—or, rather, he can find no-body impudent enough to print them—but he shows himself in his private converse. The Bible, he says, is all rigmarole. As to his Greek, you might see very well if it were put in your eye. He does not read Wordsworth, and knows nothing about him."

Mr. Woodberry has produced a book of unrelieved sadness, but with all his care he is not able to give reason for the melancholy of its central figure, who shed gloom about him as some men shed light. One of Poe's truest and most intelligent friends, Mrs. Louise Shew, contended that the poet, even when in health, had a lesion of one side of the brain, and it would in-

deed appear that there was a strain of in. sanity in that tortured and beclouded soul-Yet think of such a man struggling all his life in the bleakest poverty! We never hear of his making more than \$800 a year. Burton, Graham, Briggs "hired" him to edit their preposterous magazines at \$10 or \$12 a week, which included the use of the "Tales" which the world now accepts as master. ton, Graham, Briggs "hired" him to edit their preposterous magazines at \$10 or \$12 a week, which included the use of the "Tales" which the world now accepts as masterpieces. One hundred dollars was the most he ever made by a single piece of writing—"The Gold Bug"—and that was in competition for a prize offered by Mr. Joseph Sailer, of the Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper. All the other tales went in the account of a \$10 a week salary, or were paid for at the rate of \$2 or \$3 a page. From his books he never received a cent. It makes one sick at heart to know these things,—to think of that forlorn genius, with his sweet wife actually starving before his eyes, and now to note sleek and comfortable mediocrity in every line of the writer's vocation. And it was not at all Poe's dissipations which kept him poor. We know pretty closely what his whole earnings were; that he did not waste money greatly on himself; and that his business condition could not have been greatly better if he had been a model citizen. He was perhaps not far out of the way in his constant declaration that it was his misery through poverty which made him drink; rather than that his misery was caused by drinking. If he had lived in our own period of full returns to the literary worker, how different everything might have been!

G. W. A.

SONGS OF MIRZA SCHAFFY.

For the American.

The rose with murmuring once complained That all too soon the fragrance fled With which the spring-time her had dowered,

Consoling her, I then explained, That through my songs its waftings sped, And there in life eternal flowered.

Translated from the German of Frederick von Bodenstedt by Louis Edward Levy.

KING AILILL'S DEATH.

From the Early Middle Irish, Book of Leinster.

I know who won the peace of God— The old King Ailill of the Bann, Who fought beyond the Irish Sea All day against a Connaught clan.

The King was routed. In the flight He muttered to his charioteer, "Lookb ack; the slaughter, is it red? The slayers, are they drawing near?"

The man looked back. The west wind blew ead clansmens' hair against his face He heard the war shout of his foes The death-cry of his ruined race

The foes came darting from the height Like pine trees down a swollen fall. Like heaps of hay in flood, his clan Swept on or sank-he saw it all.

And spake, "The slaughter is full red, But we may still be saved by flight."
Then groaned the King, "No sin of theirs Falls on my people here to-night.

"No sin of theirs, but sin of mine, For I was worst of evil Kings, Unrighteous, wrathful, hurling down To death or shame all weaker things.

"Draw rein, and turn the chariot round; My face against the foemen bend. When I am seen and slain, mayhap The slaughter of my tribe will end."

They drew, and turned. Down came the foe The King fell cloven on the sod: The slaughter then was stayed, and so King Ailill won the peace of God.

- Whitley Stokes, in the Academy,

REVIEWS.

GEORGE ELIOT'S LIFE, Related in her Let-

George Eliot's Life, Related in her Letters and Journals, arranged and edited by her Husband, J. W. Cross. In Three Volumes. New York: Harper & Brothers. After that of Thomas Carlyle, no biography of our century has been awaited with so much eagerness as that of George Eliot. Her death was followed by a large number of sketches of her character and surroundings, which but whetted the public interest and prepared readers generally to welcome any ample narrative of her life. There was, however, a very general sense of regret that the duty had fallen to Mr. Cross. A large number of her friends took offense at her marriage to this gentleman. The literary set, in London especially, resented her alliance with a mere business man, who had no association with letters known to them; and they felt sure that he would make a botch of the book. The fact that George Eliot chose him as the intimate companion of her last years, proved to them pathing about her only that companion of her last years, proved to them nothing about him, and about her only that nothing about him, and about her only that she had sunk into some kind of dotage. Mr. Cross has discharged his task after a fashion which vindicates both his wife and himself. He has chosen to write the biography on probably the most difficult line he could have selected, and that which involves the completest suppression of himself. He has not attempted to prepare a narrative, pieced together, illustrated and supplemented by letters and journals. On the contrary, he has made the journals. On the contrary, he has made the journals and letters constitute the narrative, Journals and letters constitute the harranty, while he supplies no more than brief, connecting passages, which the text requires to be properly intelligible. He has been aided in this by the fact that George Eliot was a profuse letter writer, and her correspondents profuse letter writer, and her correspondents seem to have kept her letters as something precious, and to have given Mr. Cross the use of them without reserve. But the letters rarely are given in their entirety. Just so much is taken from each as contributes to the completeness of the picture of George Eliot in that stage of her intellectual growth, or the picture of the circumstance; in which or the picture of the circumstances in which she then was.

The whole effect of this book will be to raise George Eliot greatly in the estimation of the world, though not in all respects. She is shown to have been a woman of genuine womanliness, as well as of an extraordinary genius. The book has an atmosphere of gentleness, kindness, and even devotedness, which the personality of a genuine lady dif-fuses through it. The moral tone is always which the personality of a genuine lady diffuses through it. The moral tone is always lofty, as in her works, but there is no censoriousness. Her sharpest demands are upon herself, and her sharpest judgments are for herself. Those who lay great stress on her want of what would generally be recognized as a religious faith will expect to be pained by allusions and expressions which are the badge of the Free Thinking party. There is nothing of the sort here. George Eliot distinctly disavows sympathy with that kind of spirit. Her Bible is still sacred to her. Her sympathy is with the worship of congregations which she cannot join for conscience's sake. Her interest in the masterpieces of Christian art, whether on canvas or in literature, is both keen and discriminating. She has Goethe's detestation of antagonism and negatism. Where she cannot say "Yea!" she will hold her peace; but religious faith is too great a matter to be treated otherwise than with reverence.

Her attitude towards individuals is equally admirable. The her friends are in the contractions and a least a contractions are a contractions.

Her attitude towards individuals is equally admirable. To her friends she is courtesy itself, and she values any genuine friendship as highly as might the simplest and the least known woman in England. By temperament and training, she has no liking for publicity. Her concealment of her personality as an author was quite in keeping. ality as an author was quite in keeping with her whole life. She draws as strictly

as possible the line around her life and sitile of intimate friends. But who cross that line do not find ylean welcome there. She is cordially circie those a Carlylean welcome there. She is cordially interested in a large but genuine way in so much of humanity as reaches her, and we see her circle expanding of necessity as fame and influence accrue to her. And her friendship was of the close and intimate kind, which finds its best expression "under four eyes." She did not shine in the social circle, but in conversation tete a tete.

The three points of greatest interest in the biography are her conversion from Christianity to secularism, her relation to Mr. George H. Lewes, and her authorship. Of course the interest in the two former grows out of the latter. On neither of these two has Mr. the latter. On neither of these two has Mr. Cross given us much more light than we had already. The first, indeed, is more inexplicable, and tends more to lower the respect for her judgment, in the light of what is here told us. Up to a given point we see her a simple Evangelical, of the Simeon type, without the shadow of an approximation to any other form or thought. She is devoit earnest, sincere as the best members devout, earnest, sincere as the best members of the school. In the year 1841 she turns a devout, earnest, sincere as the best members of the school. In the year 1841 she turns a religious somersault nearly as complete as that which Bruno Bauer had made just two years before. There is no transition, no shading of thought, no passage through intermediate stages. She never seems to have been a Unitarian or a Deist. From the Christianity of the school of Simeon she passes to the conclusion that all attempts to know more than human relations are delusive, all supposed disclosures of a higher intelligence but the echoes of human aspiration, all the story of the Gospels a message of myth that had gathered around the figure of a great, imperfectly-understood and self-deluded teacher. From that time she sees in Christianity a revelation which has transformed society, purified social relations, made life nobler to millions, and yet starts from a gigantic misinterpretation of facts. That so great a mind was capable of believing such effects capable of proceeding from such a cause, shows how capable of beneving such effects capable of proceeding from such a cause, shows how much defective reasoning can co-exist with even genius. That such a leap was possible within a single year, shows the fatal weak-ness of Evangelicalism—its defective grasp of the historic facts upon which Christianity

There always will be differences of opin-There always will be differences of opinion as to the propriety of her conduct in accepting Mr. Lewes as her husband without any public form of marriage. There is no difficulty in seeing exactly the reasons which led her to regard that step as right. In her view the laws of the country had refused Mr. Lewes a divorce from a wife whom count the strictest school of provides would even the strictest school of moralists would regard as having forfeited the rights of a wife. This refusal was made on purely technical grounds. Both he and Marian Evans regarded marriages as consisting essentially in the separation of two human beings from in the separation of two human beings from all others to give themselves each to the other till death part them. They had, as she says, no toleration for lightly formed and easily ended connections between the sexes. They stood ready to give to society the most public and emphatic pledges of a life-long union. Society had refused to accept any pledge,—had refused them the sanction of law and had threatened him with penalties for unfaithfulness to his wife, who had been confessedly unfaithful to him. So penalties for unfaithfulness to his wife, who had been confessedly unfaithful to him. So they gave notice in a social way that they had taken each other for better and for worse, to have and to hold, to love and to cherish till death parted them. They entered into what the Germans call a marriage of conscience (gevisens-ehr), and regarded this as equally binding with any ceremony Church or State might have exacted. And in this case it was not the Church but the State that stood in the way. No English clergyman would have refused to marry them if the legal technicality had not stood

them if the legal technicality had not stood in the way of his getting a divorce.

That such unions are undesirable, George Eliot would not have denied. That the act might be pleaded as an example abusively, by people who did not look under the surface of things, she probably would have admitted. Her marriage to Mr. Cross was in church, and with all the usual forms.

Her marriage to Mr. Cross was in church, and with all the usual forms.

On the circumstances in which each of her novels was written, this life casts abundant light. Writing was not to her the torment it was to Carlyle. She enjoyed the growth of her works under her hand, and entered keenly into the humor of such a character as the invented Mr. Person. This is the result of the control of the c keenly into the humor of such a character as the immortal Mrs. Poyser. This is the prerogative of genius—to do better than its possessor knows how to do, and to enjoy the result as heartily as any outsider. Talent can do just as well as it knows how. It is a workbox in which every tool has its place, and the hand knows the way to each. Its sphere of inward action is what Dallas calls "the mind of the conscious." Genius is the working of the whole nature, down to the depths of the unconscious life. Its working comes from the very heart. It knows not the paths of its own movement, except as the result shows them. Thackeray, wondering where his charown movement, except as the result shows them. Thackeray, wondering where his characters "found these things to say," is an instance of what we mean. George Eliot had the same delight in the growth of her work, and it was redoubled by the intellectual sympathy of her husband, to whose critical suggestions her books owe much.

That there are autobiagraphical algorithms are not provided the same and the same and the same are the same and the same are the same and the same are the sam

gestions her books owe nuch.

That there are autobiographical elements in her works has long been known. Traces of her father are seen in both Adam Bede and David Garth. She herself stands in in some measure for both Mary Garth and Maggie Tulliver. Maggie's relations to "brother Tom" are a much modified picture of here own to her work oldest brother. of her own to her next oldest brother. But as she says, there are no portraits in any of her works, except the first. When she wrote "The Scenes of Clerical Life" she was still unskilled enough of them in a raw state. In all the other books these materials are worked into shape

books these materials are worked into shape by the transfixing power of the imagination. She was like Carlyle in working only for the highest ends she knew. Like him, she shrank from writing books which should merely tickle the ears and please the fancy of her own generation. She desired to speak from the heart and to convey her message to her generation.

The great defect of her work is over-elaboration. She became a learned woman in

The great defect of her work is over-elaboration. She became a learned woman in many fields, and under the stimulus given by her first husband, she gave much of her attention to science. This tended to spoil her for the light work of imaginative writing. Her sociology, her physiology and all the rest of her anacyclopedic knowledge. ing. Her sociology, her physiology and all the rest of her encyclopedic knowledge weighed heavily in her later books. She wrote better when she knew less of things, and had her mind more fixed upon human beings and human relations. She turned her back upon religion in the mistaken belief that all concern about the unseen and the eternal came between men and their kindred men. Yet she allowed the other "ologies" to do the mischief she feared from theology. She never wrote anything so good as the "Scangs" and "Adam Bede." unless it never wrote anything so good as the "Scenes" and "Adam Bede," unless it were "Silas Marner."

were "Silas Marner."
Yet even in her best days her touch was too heavy for the finest art. This is seen even in her letters. They are interesting, and good of their kind. But they are not equal to Mrs. Cariyle's. The immortal Jane fascinates the most indifferent readers. She compels interest in whatever interests her-

self. George Eliot falls below this supreme art. K. E. T.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS RELATING TO GWYNEDD, a Township of Montgomery County, Pa., settled 1698 by Welsh Immigrants, with Some Data Referring to the Adjacent Township of Montgomery, also a Welsh Settlement. By Howard M. Jenkins, Member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, (a. Native of Gwynedd).

kins, Member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (a Native of Gwynedd). Pp. vii. and 400. Great octavo. Twelve Illustrations. Philadelphia, 1884. The awakening of an interest in history in this country has born fruit in the rapid growth of local and family histories. These growth of local and family histories. These books appeal to a limited class of readers, but they contain much of the materials which the writers of general history cannot

afford to overlook.

The very handsome volume Mr. Jenkins has devoted to the township of Gwynedd is an admirable specimen of what may be done with an old neighborhood whose history goes back a couple of centuries. It is true that in the case of Gwynedd there are some elements of special interest. That it was a Weish settlement is the first of these. Our own Commonwealth is the only one which attracted immigrants from the Principality at an early date. This was due not to the fact that the Penns—as their name shows—were Welsh originally, but to the early establishment of the Society of Friends in Wales. When Friend Penn was known to have set up a Commonwealth in which the Quaker ideal of toleration is realized, the whole area of the Society was moved. The little groups of Quakers on the Rhine and in Holland, sent their quota. Ireland sent its Logans, Yorkshire its Ellises, the other countries each their share. And from Wales came Williamses, Evanses, Joneses, Griffiths and the like. Not the Friends only, but the Welsh Baptists came to Pennsylvania, and such names as Penllyn, Raduor, Merion, Bryn Mawr, Gwynedd, Montgomery, Tredyfrin, Uwchlan and Berwyn still perpetuate in the neighborhood of our city this presence of Cymric settlers. The first Welshmen came to the Welsh Tract, or Merion district, on the West bank of the Schuylkill. It was not until they had well taken root, and their prosperity was ascertained, that the Gwy-The very handsome volume Mr. Jenkins has devoted to the township of Gwynedd is on the West bank of the Schuylkill. It was not until they had well taken root, and their prosperity was ascertained, that the Gwynedd and Montgomery settlers sought a home here also. A part of the colony were Friends from the start, but the majority belonged to the Church of England, and kept up a separate meeting for some time. They had no clergy and no sacraments, and were not ill disposed to the Friendly way. So it was easy for them to find a spiritual home with their Quaker neighbors. The same process seems to have taken place in other parts of the new Commonwealth. Thus Pastorius and the other Lutheran separatists in Germantown gravitated into the Society Pastorius and the other Lutheran separatists in Germantown gravitated into the Society of Friends as easily and rapidly as the Gwynedd churchmen. Gwynedd became a place of note in the Society—'a school of the prophets' it was called, because of the eminence of the preachers who visited other meetings from this centre.

Mr. Jenkins gives a good deal of space to tracing the genealogy of the families which either belonged to the first settlement or came in afterwards. The general reader will be interested here only through the fact that President Lincoln's mother figures in

will be interested here only through the fact that President Lincoln's mother figures in these genealogies, and that General Han-cock is a native of the township of Mont-gomerv. But those who are acquainted with local history in Philadelphia will find in these Gwynedd lists many names already familiar to them. Such are Dr. Cadwalader Evans and his son of the same name; Solomon W. Roberts, the well-known engineer; Samuel Medary, of Ohio history, and others. To the general reader, however, the most agreeable part of the book will be the jour-

nal of Miss Sally Wister, a young Philadelphian, whose family took refuge in Gwynedd during the British occupation of this city. It covers a period of nine months, with an unfortunate gap at the date of the battle of Germantown, and is full of those details which help to make history real to us. We know of no more interesting record of the revolutionary period. There is a handsome and wealthy major, a graduate of the College of Philadelphia, and afflicted with a bashfulness Miss Wister undertakes to cure.

Mr. Jenkins has taken much pains to col-

Mr. Jenkins has taken much pains to collect all the accessible facts which bear on the *Culturgeschichte* of Gwynedd. He has ransacked old inventories for information as to the composition and value of their household stuff. He has sought in the records of hold stuff. He has sought in the records of the Meeting for the relation of public opinthe Meeting for the relation of public opinion to such questions as slavery and intemperance. He has drawn upon the memories of the oldest inhabitants, and their recollections of conversations with their elders, for information as to the Indians, the schools, the social usages. Even the records as to the making of the roads have been subsidized for information as to the growth and the external relations of the township. The whole result is that a careful reader of the book gets an idea of the changes which have passed over this spot of Pennsylvania which enables him to realize the transformations which have altered the face of the whole country.

we venture the suggestion that he use his materials for a popular book on the same general subject. By throwing the matter nto an order more strictly chronological, and omitting genealogical details, he might make an account of this Welsh nook which would be welcomed by a wide circle of read-

The mechanical execution of the book. its text and its illustrations alike, reflect credit on the author and those who have cooperated with him in its preparation

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMER ICA, FROM THE DISCOVERY OF THE CONTINENT. By George Bancroft. The Author's Last Revision. Volume VI. Pp. 572. New York: D. Appleton & Co. This volume is the last of the six in which Mr. Bancroft and his publishers have finally put his great work. It begins with the events of 1781 and closes rapidly the final scenes of the Revolutionary struggle, so that nearly the whole is devoted to the history of the formation of the constitution. From the embarrassments, the difficulties, the obstaembarrassments, the difficulties, the obsta-cles that beset the loose colonial association, cles that beset the loose colonial association, even under the Articles of Confederation, the historian traces the practical steps that led to the "more perfect Union," and, indeed, dramatic as is the action by which Independence was claimed and conquered, this further chapter of the formation of the Union and birth of the real Nation is even more striking. The volume devoted to it may well be considered a great work, fitly concluding the labors of the distinguished author. It has, we should not omit to mention, a fine steel-engraved portrait of Mr. Bancroft as its frontispiece.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

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Christian Reid has as much industry as talent. The list of her books has been steadily mounting, until now there are not many native novelists—we do not count the sensationalists—who surpass her in quantity. At the same time she works with judgment and her later books show no deterioration. "Roslyn's Foitune," the latest of them (D. Appleton & Co., New York) is as good as any, with plenty of the variety, discrimination and nervous force for which she is noted. It is a Southern story, and in this is noted. It is a Southern story, and in this choice of habitat the writer shows sense; she

has now and again gone to Italy or France for a change, but she has never at such times been so successful as when describing the country and the people she knows best. The "fortune" of "Rosiyn" is of course the securing for husband the man she loves; with this is the consideration of a fortune in money which "Roslyn" was supposed to own, but which really was secured by the lover, and afterwards enjoyed in a life partnership. Christian Reid's popularity is well deserved.

afterwards enjoyed in a life partnership. Christian Reid's popularity is well deserved. "Addie's Husband," an anonymous novel, issued by Messrs. D. Appleton & Co., is apparently of English origin; that is, it has the manner, at once deliberate and fluent, of English-built fiction. The scene, at all events, is English, and, while the story is very slight, it is agreeably told. A spice of fun in it keeps things moving also. Rev. Martin S. Brennan's "Popular Expo-

Rev. Martin S. Brennan's "Popular Exposition of Electricity" (D. Appleton & Co., New York), might appropriately have been put forth as one of the "Science Primers." It is quite elementary, so much so that "Popular" is scarcely the word that designates it properly. Readers might well desire to be carried further into the subject than Mr. Brennan carries them, though they might still wish to have it treated in a simple and—as far as possible—unscientific manner. Half-way or quarter-way books like this cannot in honesty be called satisfactory, though it is likely enough that some young people may gather valuable ideas from Mr. Brennan's "Popular Exposition." It makes an effort to indicate the points involved in electricity and its discoveries, and gives sketches of various discoverers.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

In a charming paper on Hans Christian Anderson in Scandinavia attention is paid to the novelist's astonishing power of imitation.

A history, on an extensive scale, of English publishing firms will shortly commence in Le Livre.

"My Lady Pocahontas" is the title of a new novel by Mr. John Esten Cooke, shortly to be published by Messrs. Houghton, Mirflin & Co.

Mr. G. W. Cable is preparing what he calls a book "of remarkable true stories, largely illustrated, of Louisiana life, which have come to me in the last fifteen years; some have been told me, some of them have come under my own observation."

some nave even told me, some of them nave come under my own observation."

In speaking of Leslie Stephen's "Dictionary of National Biography," which may be called the greatest literary enterprise of the day, embracing as it will according to the present estimate fifty volumes, the London Academy says: "When the proper time comes for estimating the literature of this latter end of the nineteenth century, itseems probable that the critic of the future will award to the present generation of English men of letters greater credit for knowledge than for power. To dwell upon the negative aspect would be ungracious, especially at a time when our three chief poets have each given us within the few past weeks a volume of their best. But the publication of the first instalment of Mr. Leslie Stephen's great enterprise naturally suggests the reflection that such a work could have been undertaken at no earlier time with equal prospect of success."

Messrs. P. Blakiston, Son & Co. will issue, about March 1st, the "Medical Directory of Philadelphia for 1885," including Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey. Besides giving complete verified lists of physicians of all schools, and druggists and dentists, it will contain authoritative information about hospitals, asylums, reformatories, charities, dispensaries, etc., with directions to be fol-

lowed when applying for relief, the proper officer to address, etc. This information, which is given in a compact style, arranged so as to facilitate reference, can be found in no other one book.

Mr. Montgomery Schuyler is acting as managing editor of Harper's Weekly, owing to the strange absence of Mr. S. S. Covant.

to the strange absence of Mr. S. S. Covant.
The first edition of the February Century, containing Grant's "Shiloh," numbered 180,000 copies. Two extra editions—one of 10,000 and the other of 20,000—have since been printed. General McClellan will contribute two papers to this series, one of a general nature on the Peninsula campaign and the second on the battle of Antietam. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston will write of the Confederate side.

Queen Victoria has been pleased to accept a copy of Mr. George Dolby's "Charles Dickens as I Knew Him."

John B. Alden now publishes, in addition to his other magazines, Alden's Juvenile Gem, a weekly for young people, and The Novelist, a weekly journal of fiction and miscellaneous literature.

Among the English reviewers who are engaged upon or who have undertaken to review "George Eliot's Life" are Lord Acton, who has in preparation an article for the Nineteenth Century; Mr. Frederic Harrison, who is to contribute the notice in the Fortnightly, and Mr. John Morley, who is to review the work in Macmillan.

The pecuniary success of the new edition of "Omar Khayyam" is said to have been already large. Mr. Vedder's royalty, it is conjectured, will reach \$20,000.

Both Lord Tennyson's "Becket" and Mr. Browning's "Ferishtah's Fancies" have found many readers. The first has sold in thousands and a third edition of the latter has been called for.

Rev. A. H. Drysdale, M. A., of Morpeth, has undertaken to write the history of Presbyterianism in England. The work will not be ready for a considerable period.

Charles C. Soule, of Boston, has become the American publisher of the Law Quarterly Review, the new magazine edited by Professor Pollock, of Oxford. In size and appearance it is like the Fortnightly.

The second part of Mr. Bird's compilation on "Modern Chess" is now nearly ready.

on "Modern Chess" is now nearly ready.

The Scribners will soon publish a work by Charles Howard Shinn on "Mining Camps: A Study in American Frontier Government," in which the self-made laws and precedents of the miner will be elucidated with many stirring episodes. A monograph bearing on this subject has already been contributed by Mr. Shinn to the "Johns Hopkins University Series."

A popular edition, price sixpence of

A popular edition, price sixpence, of Queen Victoria's "More Leaves From a Highland Journal" is in the press at London.

The Hibbert lecturer for this year, Professor Pfleiderer, of Berlin, will take for his subject, "The Preaching of Paul and Its Influence on Christianity." The lectures are being translated into English by Rev. J. Frederick Smith.

The Spelling Reform Association have adopted, as a means of encouraging the progress of their cause, a new plan specially calculated to secure the adhesion of printers and publishers. They offer to supply experienced proof-readers free of cost, who are prepared to assist in producing books and pamphlets "in any degree of amended or fonetic spelling."

Charles Kingsley's charming story, "The Water Babies," has been edited and abridged by J. H. Stickney for Messrs. Ginn, Heath & Co.'s series of "Classics for Children."

The Publishers' Weekly compiles the following statement of last year's publications in the United States. A comparison with the books of 1883, also given, will be found of interest:

	1883.	1884.
Fiction	670	943
Law	397	455
Theology and Religion	375	380
Juvenile Books	381	358
Education, Language,	197	227
Poetry and Drama	184	222
Medical Science, Hygiene	211	209
Literary History and Miscellany	158	188
Bios raphy, Memoirs	161	178
Bio, raphy, MemoirsSocial and Political Science	106	168
Useful Arts	146	154
Description, Travel	155	136
Physical and Mathematical Science	90	134
History	119	115
Fine Arts and Illustrated Books	75	81
Sports and Amusements	22	51
Domestic and Rural	22 22 47	43
Humor and Satire	47	29
Mental and Moral Philosophy	15	19
	3481	4088

The Lytton Letters have had a strange history; it seems likely they will make their appearance in England, after all. Some of the copies sent out for review were sent to this country, where the work has been reprinted. As it was suppressed in England no copyright was secured in it, so, unless some extraordinary measures are taken, there will be nothing to prevent the importation of the objectionable book.

Professor Freeman intends to edit a series of historical handbooks on English cities and towns. The following volumes have already been assigned: London, to Rev. W. J. Loftie; Manchester, to Mr. G. Saintsbury; Oxford, to Rev. C. W. Boase; Bristol, to Rev. W. Hunt. The editor himself undertakes the history of Exeter.

Miss E. R. Scidmore, who has made several visits to Alaska, is the author of a book entitled "Southern Alaska and the Sitkan Archipelago," which Messrs. D. Lothrop & Co. will publish. A thorough book on Alaska is much needed.

Alaska is much needed.

As a memorial to the late Dr. Angus Smith, his valuable library, consisting of 3500 volumes, has been purchased by subscription and has been presented to Owens College, England. Mr. Alderman Hopkinson, in making the presentation, said the principal portion was the chemical, containing 850 volumes, but the division containing 850 volumes, but the division containing the rarest and most valuable books was the Celtic, with 490 volumes, which competent judges had declared to be the most important collection in existence of works relating to the Celtic language and the history of Scotland.

Mr. Edmund Gosse, upon leaving New York for London recently, left behind him the MS. of the "Lectures on English Poetry," which he delivered at Lowell Institute, Johns Hopkins University and in a circle of private houses in New York. The lectures will be published by Messrs. James R. Osgood & Co. shortly.

Mr. Thomas Stenhouse, of Hampstead, England, announces that he is engaged on a translation into English of Kautzsch's Grammatik des Biblisch Aramaisches.

Richard Bentiey & Son, London, will publish a work entitled "Mount Seir, the Narrative of a Scientific Expedition," by Edward Hill. This expedition, which was entirely geographical and geological, was sent out by the Palestine Exploration Fund. Not the least of its results was a complete survey of the Wady Arabab.

Professor Whitney, of Yale, contributes part of the article on Philology to the forthcoming eighteenth volume of Encyclopædia Brittanica.

The trustees of the Astor Library have transmitted to the Legislature of New York their annual report. There were during the year 59,057 readers, and a number of valuable books and MSS. have been acquired.

Brockhaus, of Leipzig, has published the eighteenth part of Levy's Neuhebraisches und Chaldaisches Worterbuch uber die Talmudim und Midraschim.

According to a German newspaper, a set of very strict regulations will in future be enforced by the authorities of the Vatican concerning the use of documents and books in the library. Every scholar must first send in a statement containing the names of the documents wanted and the use he expects to make of them.

A cablegram from Rome has been received by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., ordering a copy of the edition de luxe of "Vedder's Illustrations to Omar Khayyám's Rubáiyát" for the Queen of Italy. Mr. Vedder ought to feel complimented at so marked a recognition of his work by one who is a well-known connoisseur.

well-known connoisseur.

G. P. Putnam's Sons will publish immediately a small work with a big purpose, entitled "Man's Birthright; or, The Higher Law of Property." The author, E. H. G. Clark, claims to present in his essay a practical solution of the vexed questions concerning the ownership of the surface and natural products of the earth (what Aristotle termed "Nature's bounty")—a solution which, while not interfering with individual ownership and occupancy, gives due recognition to the "natural rights" of each generation.

generation.

The March issue of Harper's Magazine will contain a notable article by Hon. John Bigelow. One of the treasures of the library of Mr. Tilden is a good-sized book, bound in calf, filled up in the handwriting of Thomas Jefferson. It is the financial diary of the great man, kept by him from January 1, 1791, while he was Secretary of State, up to 1803, covering thus the first two years of his Presidency. Among its entries is a careful summary of all his expenses from March 1, 1801, to March 1, 1802, showing an expenditure of \$32,634.84, the various elements of which are given in detail.

Miss Ellen Day Hale, the daughter of Edward Everett Hale, and known as a rising artist, contributes to the March issue of Harper's an article on the granite quarries of Cape Ann, with illustrations by herself and others. One of the curious facts she brings out is the idiosyncrasy of various cities in the matter of pavements, Philadelphia in particular "insisting upon having especially long and fair stones." The article and its pictures form an interesting example of feminine co-operation.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

GREECE IN THE TIMES OF HOMER. An Account of the Life, Customs and Habits of the Greeks During the Homeric Age. Pp. xi. and 302. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)

Philadelphia.)

A POPULAR EXPOSITION OF ELECTRICITY, WITH SKETCHES OF SOME OF 1TS DISCOVERIES. By Rev. Martin S. Brennan, A. M. Pp. 191, §—. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)

Addle's Husband. A Novel. Pp. 197. \$0.25. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)

ROSLYN'S FORTUNE. A Novel. By Christian Reid, Pp. 288. \$1.25. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FROM THE DISCOVERY OF THE CONTINENT. BY George Bancroft. The Author's Lat Revision. Volume VI. Pp. 572. \$2.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Porter & Coates, Philadelphia.)

ART NOTES.

With characteristic ignorance of everything outside of their own city, the New York papers are describing the Seney collection of pictures, now about to be placed on exhibition and sale, as the largest and finest in the country, excepting the Vanderbilt and Belmont collections. The Seney collection contains a few good examples of great artists, and a considerable number of well-known names represented by unimportant works, but there are a dozen private galleries at least in other cities that are superior to it in many respects. The Gibson collection, in this city, for example, will compare favorably not only with Mr. Vanderbilt's or Mr. Belmont's, but with any strictly private collection in the world; leaving out of the account, of course, the great family galleries of Europe which have something of a public character. Mr. Bement, of this city, could undubtedly select from his pictures a number equal in value to those of the Seney catalogue, and still have a more numerous and more valuable list remaining; and a few gems from among the many owned by Mr. Whitney would overbalance the worth of all the aggregate that our New York contemporaries are boasting of. This bumptious selfassertion is all the more aggravating from the fact that our own papers will copy and endorse it, giving conspicuous prominence to the Seney pictures, neither knowing nor caring that we have far more important and valuable works right here at home.

caring that we have far more important and valuable works right here at home.

Mr. George W. Childs has given to the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts an interesting portfolio of black-and-white studies and sketches originally belonging to Benjamin West. There are forty-seven drawings in all, most of them being in crayon and in pen-and-ink. Twenty of them are attributed to Benjamin West himself, including the croquis of several large pictures, as "Lot and His Daughter," "Daniel in the Lion's Den," "Noah Entering the Ark" and "David." There are also copies by West in crayon from Guido, Raphael and other old masters. The Academy already has a number of West's most striking works, and these drawings will be a desirable addition to the collection, as tending to further illustrate the style of this painter and his place in the history of art. The drawings were purchased for Mr. Childs through the good offices of our Minister to England, Mr. James Russell Lowell.

A suggestion has been made through the

A suggestion has been made through the press for the establishment of what may be termed a censorship to protect the government from being swindled and disgraced through jobbery in brumagem works of art. The government has not done much to encourage art, but of the public money devoted from time to time to the purchase of pictures, statues, portraits, etc., 90 per cent, as recently stated in these columns, has been worse than thrown away. The greater part of all that we have of so-called "works of art" stands for unblushing fraud on the one side and easy-going ignorance on the other. In this way not only is the public treasury robbed but the government is made to do positive harm to the progress of art instead of doing positive good, as it might and should do. It is quite time that something should be done to correct this evil, and the institution of a competent body to pass judgment on the artistic ventures presented before Congress would be a step in the right direction. Such a body should not be too large, and should include leading artists, representatives of the press of recognized standing, and intelligent patrons of art. The sanction of Congress would be desirable, but not necessary. The negative verdict of such a tribunal, even if self-constituted, would be final, and a favorable judgment would in any case only be advisory.

Col. W. C. Knight, editor of the Southern Planter, is out with a statement to the effect that there is no truth whatever in the picture recently published in Harper's Weekly, representing John Brown on his way to execution. The print referred to is Juengling's reproduction of Hovenden's painting, "The Last Moments of John Brown," and Colonel Knight's sweeping charge is important as attacking the veracity of that great work. "The only fact in the case, says the editor of the Planter, "is that John Brown was taken from the jail and executed." Further he says: "Such a representation does great injustice to the negroes of the South, and is calculated to give a false impression of the ideas entertained of John Brown. Indeed, the negroes at that time did not know that such a man existed."

This quotation gives the gist of what Col. Knight has to say about the picture in the course of a half-column article, and it will strike the impartial reader that he says either too much or too little. The narration given in the picture is the result of two years' careful study, in which all available authorities were consulted, including eye witnesses, citizens, the civil authorities and the military of Virginia present on the occasion. Now, to say there is no truth whatever in the representation, and to declare that it does great injustice to those it purports to portray, is a heedless piece of assertion, unless it is sustained by specific citations, accompanied by credible evidence. In what respect the picture is wrong, in what particulars it is false, and how it "does great injustice to the negro," or to anybody else, the editor of The Planter may be able to specify and to establish by proof, but he does not take the trouble to observe these common requirements so far, and until he does, his broad allegations must pass as an unwarrantable attack on a conscientious and carefully authenticated work of art.

of art.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson is an artist whose genius finds expression in pictoral delineation as well as in dramatic personation. He has for many years been an enthusiastic student of landscape painting and has produced a number of pictures of acknowledged merit. His work is characteristic, imbued with sentiment and showing delicate appreciation of beauty in nature. He is a warm admirer of Corot, and in manner he shows heedful study of that master. He has several of Corot's most important works, and among the treasures of his studio he preserves the palette and brushes used by the great painter. Mr. Jefferson rarely exhibits in public, but some landscape studies made on his plantation home in the South have been seen in this city, and recently a large picture of his, entitled "Forest and Stream," was on exhibition in London, where it was warmly praised by the critics.

The Pall Mall Gazette recently solicited the franchises of its subscribers to determine the question of precedence among England's greatest representatives in several walks of life, particularly in politics, literature, art, science, etc. Some 1500 voters responded, and in nearly all cases the majorities were large enough to show a decided preponderance of opinion. It is rather surprising to note that John Ruskin is polled as the greatest English writer now living, William Black coming second, though far behind. Mr. Millais receives a smaller majority as the first living artist, Sir Frederick Leighton following within 200 votes. It is not improbable that Sir Frederick received a good many votes as President of the Academy, the office giving him a position at the head of his guild in the eyes of the conservative Briton.

The question is raised, Why shouldn't the Watts pictures, which have attracted throngs

of visitors to the Metropolitan Museum in New York for several months, be brought to Philadelphia? Nothing has happened in New York art circles for many a day that has excited so much interest and developed so much discussion as these pictures, and it would be a pity if other cities should not have an opportunity to share the benefits of have an opportunity to share the benefits of such interest and such discussion. The good thing about these works of Mr. Watts is that their merits and demerits are so pronounced that people can honestly and very warmly differ in their judgments concerning them. They have come to us announced by all the trumpets of the English press, and by all the trumpets of the English press, and the amount of praise which has been bestowed on them since they came is something to wonder at. It was very delightful, too, to see the crowd of exhibition-goers who welcomed them in New York, and who pressed through the galleries in which they were shown, newspaper cutting in hand, anxious but determined to admire all the things which were down on the list.

It will not be denied, I presume, that it took a little courage to admire some of them; a little more faith in the oracular utterances

a little more faith in the oracular utterances of the great men who settle these things for us in the newspapers than is accorded them when they deliver opinions on any other subject. Still the fact remains that the pub-

subject. Still the fact remains that the public was equal to the emergency, and did, evidently, admire the pictures immensely, just as it was down in the bills that they should. And truly, there is enough in the pictures that is admirable, so that everybody ought to want to see them. The painting, as painting, is childish in its feeble blundering and the utter absence of every quality that distinguishes the work of a master of his craft; but the best of the portraits are good enough but the best of the portraits are good enough to almost make us forget this.

to almost make us forget thus.

The color of the ideal pictures is a succession of very elementary experiments, each with a more or less clearly defined theory behind it, no doubt, but made with very little reference either to the phenomena of nature or to the example of the masters from whom most is to be learned; but the designs are very expirited and the but the designs are very spirited, and the effect in most of them is very impressive, although it must be admitted that one gets a little tired of so much horror on horseback as the catalogue enumerates.

as the catalogue enumerates.

Our own Academy is out with another Report, which is also an Appeal—a complaint of hard times, of lack of support, of a dearth of visitors and what not. Manifestly such exhibitions as this of the Watts pictures, that come and go, and that people get excited about when they are present, is what the art interests of Philadelphia need, and the collection ought certainly to come here if possible.

L. W. M. if possible.

Advices from London state that the coming exhibition of the Royal Academy will be crowded with important contributions, and a place on the line will be a distinguished honor, while to get in at all will be a piece of good fortune. Among the pictures mentioned by the London papers is a full-length by Millais of a little girl petting a rabbit, said to be very beautiful, and another by Val Princess, entitled, "Waiting Till Called For," a demure little maiden at a railroad station, looking with some anxiety for the friends who are to receive her. George H. Boughton has an important historic composition called "Milton in the Sunset of His Days," an awkward title that may, however, pertain to a worthy picture. Mr. Pettie sends a "Charles Surface," representing the character in the auction scene of the play. AlmaTadema has produced the picture of the year, according to the Telegraph, a large work with many figures representing Platodiscours-Advices from London state that the comyear, according to the Leegraph, a large work with many figures representing Platodiscoursing in the Academy. The scene is reproduced with elaborate care, and the figures are said to be marvelously well delineated. Sir

Frederick Leighton is to be represented by a

Frederick Leighton is to be represented by a portrait, a little daughter of Lord Rosebery, suggestive of Sir Joshua, and appropriately entitled "Lady Sybil Primrose."

Among the sculptures will be Thornycroft's bust of the poet Coleridge, intended for the Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey. The bust of Miss Mary Anderson, by Parce Lay will depthies here. Bruce Jay, will doubtless have a place, as will also Mr. Brooks' bust of Sir Erasmus

ORIGIN OF THE AMERICAN IN-DIANS.

Dr. D. G. Brinton is delivering a series of lectures before the Academy of Natural Sciences. The theme of his second lecture, on the evening of the 4th instant, was "The on the evening of the 4th instant, was "The Origin of the Indians on the American Continent, Whence and How they came there, and What were their Migrations?" Reference was made to previous theories to account for their appearance; to that of Pickering, who broadly divided all Indian tribes into two—the one of Malayan descent, the other Mongolian—the former occupying the Polynesian Islands, the southern part of North America, and a small portion of South America, the Mongolian tribe being found on the northern portion of North America. Professor Müller, of Vienna, adopts the Hyperborean theory, or the descent of American Indians from some tribes of the extreme north, such as the Esquimaux, to which he assumes are related the inhabitants of the Aleutian and Kurtle Islands, the Tchukiches of North-Kurtle Islands, the Tchukiches of Northeastern Siberia. But there is no correspondence of language that will admit of this view. Professor Nordenskjold's idea, indeed, is that the tribes of Northern Siberia deed, is that the tribes of Northern Siberia came from Southern Siberia originally, and were driven North. The Esquimaux, again, never made any settlement on the Eastern Continent. A rude classifi-cation of the American Indians, failing these cation of the American Indians, failing these theories of descent, is by their status, as hunting or agricultural tribes, for convenience into the two divisions of roving or village tribes. The northern tribes, and most of the southern, are of the roving order. The civilized Aztecs, Peruvians and the people of Yucatan belong to the agricultural division. There is, another, allowing the southern and the people of the same and the people of the same and the tural division. There is another classifica-tion by broad families of language and linguistic stocks. There are eighty-two different linguistic stocks in North America alone, some of the divisions being very small, some of them now extinct. A comparatively few occupy both continents, and the division by language does not correspond or fall in line with the other division into roving or village tribes, nor can there be a line of demarca-tion by separate physical traits.

The conclusion reached by Dr. Brinton is that man came to America as an immigrant whether ten, twenty or a hundred —whether tent, twenty or a fundred thousand years ago, it is left to geologists to determine. When they tell us the age of the various strata of the earth, the ethnologist will be able to date the life of man. He must have occupied the continent at a time will be able to all the continent at a time when the division of races took place. Either at the close of the tertiary, the last of the glacial or the beginning of the postglacial period, his traces are discoverable. Of the four theories of his arrival on the American continent, two have reference to Pacific and two to Atlantic origin, two belong to South America, two to North America

America.

The Polynesian Islands, lying hundreds and thousands of miles apart, are still peopled by the Malaysian race. The closest to our shores is Easter Island, lying 1600 or or 1800 miles from the coast of South Amerca, and Easter Island possesses remnants of a higher civilization—written records in an unknown alphabet. The theory is that fa-vored by serene Pacific weather, some na-

tives of this island ventured or were upon the coast of South America and thence spread. But there is not the least trace of a Malaysian language in South America, Malaysian language in South America, though it is a widespread tongue in the East, extending from Madagascar over 120 degrees of longitude, and is found in Sumatra, the Malayan Archipelago and the Sandwich Islands. Neither in language nor in religious characteristics are the Malay traces found in South America. The theory and the Sandwich Islands. Neither in language nor in religious characteristics are the Malay traces found in South America. The theory that man came to South America by the East, from Africa, in spite of the pretty fable of the lost Atlantis, the island which disappeared in the Atlantic Ocean, is disproved by the fact of the radical difference between the fauna of South America and Africa, which are broadly contrasted. There could have been no connection later than the eocene or the tertiary. No doubt There could have been no connection later than the cocene or the tertiary. No doubt there was such an island at that period. Surveys show a sunken continent; but man does not belong on it, as it was probably submerged not later than the miocene or middle period of the tertiary. So that both these schemes for Southern colonization may be held to be disproved.

On the western side of North America

On the western side of North America man might have arrived by Behring's Strait or the Aleutian Islands, which have gaps of no more than 250 miles in their chain, while the strait is easily crossed. The great ice-sheet is not held to have extended over this continent west of the Rocky Mountains, nor east of the Ural Mountains on the Eastern Continent. In the whole of Siberia no traces Continent. In the whole of Siberia no traces of glacial scratching have yet been found. The fourth theory connects us with Europe up to the close of the glacial period by a land-bridge by way of Labrador, Newfoundland, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe and Shetland Islands. (The British Isles were a part of the European Continent at that time.) Land shells in New England and Newfoundland are found to be the same as those of Scotland and Scandinavia. The Newfoundland are found to be the same as those of Scotland and Scandinavia. The land plants are identical; they come from the same habitat. No great stretch of the imagination is required for this view. It is not a long bridge to cross, nor great distance to bridge over, some 200 miles from land to land along this route. As among the sidelights, Dr. Brinton mentioned that the Basque language in the Pyrenees was the only similar language to that of our own Algonquins. It was not necessary, however, to exclude either of the two theories of immigration by the north. The law of early goiquins. It was not necessary, however, to exclude either of the two theories of immigration by the north. The law of early population and the itinerary guide to the original habitat of a race is the area of "subsistence" in food. Primitive man found a good place and stayed there until driven out by overpopulation or war. To find the early home of the American we must look for the centres of subsistence. There are two great centres of natural subsistence in the north. One is in Oregon, where the waters of the Columbia river and its tributaries and Vancouver's Sound furnish abundant fish; where the Camas root, succulent and excellent, is found, and also an edible moss. The other food centre is in the region of the great lakes, the Detroit river and Minnesota, when plentiful fish made subsistence easy. In the view of Lewis H. Morgan, to whom the lecturer paid a deserved compliment as a great investigator, it is easier to suppose that Indian immigration from the Columbia Valley went north and south, not west and east. It was easier in those days for an Indian tribe to travel by the coast lines to Pategonia than easier in those days for an Indian tribe to travel by the coast lines to Patagonia than to go to Florida. By the river valleys from west to east were also lines of least elevation. to east were also lines of least eleva-tion, where food, water, game and fish were plentiful. Crossing the Rocky Mountains, access would be had by the Missouri, the Platte, the Red river, etc.

These were among the most interesting top-ies of the lecture, and are to be more fully de-

veloped in the archaelogical branch of the veloped in the archæological branch of the subject, which is to be soon taken up. Not where food is plentiful, but where subsistence is difficult and the race must struggle (but not against all the odds), where it has considerable security and some subsistence, do we find the centres of civilization in early the control of the control America. In the valley of Mexico itself, a limited area with lakes very much like the Swiss lakes, are found the traces of the cultivated Aztees. In Yucatan we find the Maya civilization, in a soil of friable sand,

Maya civilization, in a soil of friable sand, barren unless cultivated.

Botanists think that the Indian corn, or maize, is derived from a native grass of Yucatan and Central America, the euchkena luxurians. The territory it has conquered extends from about 43 or 44 of south latitude to the 45th parallel north. It was carried over that broad region before Columbus, either passing from tribe to tribe or by successive migrations from the tropics. Tosuccessive migrations from the tropics. To-bacco, also a tropical plant, has migrated as far as Northern New York. Professor Brin-ton touched briefly, in concluding his lec-ture, on the fascinating evidences of pre-historic civilization in South America, in the traces of commercial intercourse with Mexico, the proofs of metal working and writing in a narrow and limited region, the remarkable monolithic doorways, stone structures and walls that the Spaniards found He also traced the spurs and causes of this civilization that stretched for 1500 found He also traced the spurs and causes of this civilization that stretched for 1500 miles along the Pacific coast, southwards to-wards Chili and northwards to Quito, in the bracing influences around the parent race, of a climate corresponding to the Alpine val-leys of Switzerland.

DRIFT.

"Too much wheat!" So the dealers say. Millions of bushels left unsold Of last year's crop; and now, to-day, Ripe and heavy and yellow as gold This summer's crop counts full and fair; And murmurs, not thanks, are in the air, And storehouse doors are locked, to wait, And men are plotting, early and late. "What shall save the farmer from loss If wheat too plenty makes wheat a dross?"
"Too much wheat!" Good God, what a word! A blasphemy in our borders heard.

"Too much wheat!" And our hearts were stirred But yesterday, and our cheeks like flam For vengeance the Lord his loins doth gird.

When a nation reads such a tale of shame Hundreds of men he dving, dead, Brothers of ours, though their skins are red; Men we promised to teach and feed. Oh, dastard nation! dastard deed! They starve like beasts in pen and fold! While we hoard wheat to sell for gold. "Too much wheat!" Men's lives are dross! "How shall the farmers be saved from loss?"

"Too much wheat!" Do the figures lie? What wondrous yields! Put the ledgers by! "Too much wheat!"

Oh, summer rain, And sun, and sky, and wind from west, Fail not, nor shine, nor blow again! Let fields be deserts, famine guest Within our gates who hourd for gold Millions of bushels of wheat unsold. With men and women and children dead
And daily dying for lack of bread!
"Too much wheat!" Good God, what a word!
A blasphemy in our borders heard.

-Helen Jackson, in the Independent.

The objects of the Italian expedition to the Red Sea are two-fold, viz., the punishment of the murderers of Signor Bianchi and the assertion of the sovereignty over Assab. Co-operation with the British is evidently expected, for a correspondent at Rome mentions that sundry of the younger officers who

were at first appointed have been replaced by others who could speak English.

The rapid growth of Socialism in Germany is one of the political potents of the times. Ten years ago when M. Tissot called upon M. Liebkrecht, the editor of the Leipsic Volkstout, which is published three times a week and has a circulation of 15,000, the Socialist departs and distribute and the beauty and the social testing testing the social testing testing the social testing testing the social testing testing testing the social testing tes cialist deputy and journalist said to him:
"M. von Bismarck has done more for us
than five Socialist ministers could have done. By his revolutionary system, inaugurated in 1866, he has cleared the road of numerous impediments which obstructed our rapid adimpediments which obstructed our rapid advance. The events of 1870 and 1871 have secured us more partisans than there were louis d'ors brought into Prussia." The fact is the cost of living has doubled in Germany without any appreciable increase of wages or salaries. Seventy-five per cent of the population of Saxony earn less than \$30 per head per annum, and whole families are vegetating upon a few dollars a month, and the natural result is that misery engenders discontent, and discontent finds expression in the return of Socialist representageners discontent, and discontent finds expression in the return of Socialist representatives to the Legislature. Fifty years ago Henry Heine predicted the reconstitution of the German Empire. Events seem marching in that direction, and whenever the citizen army of Germany is infected by Socialist principles the explosion will presently fol. low."

PRESS OPINION.

THE FALL OF KHARTOUM.

The N. Y. Tribune.

In the changeful East it is the unexpected that happens. Khartoum has fallen at a moment when apparently it had ceased to be in danger. A British army was interached on the river hardly more than a hundred miles away; the flotilla of which General Gordon had made such effective use had onened communication, with the reserved. General Gordon had made such effective use had opened communication with the rescuers; the fanatical horde which had been besieging the city for the greater part of a year had been disastrously defeated in battle, and the heroic defender of the garrison had sent word that he could hold out for two years if necessary. All apprehensions respecting the fate of General Gordon and the security of the city seemed a week ago to have been dispelled. The success of General Wolseley's expedition was predicted with absolute confidence. His work was virtually finished, as every one thought; the advance column would be reinforced and in a few weeks General Gordon would have an a few weeks General Gordon would have an English army behind him, and the Mahdi's followers would be scuttling home across the deserts. How sudden is the transition, how unexpected the denouement! Treachery has opened a way for the Mahdi's triumphal entry into Khartoum. The defense has failed at the last moment, when deliverance was close at hand. General Gordon is either claimers prisoner.

slain or a prisoner.

The cable dispatches do not offer an adequate explanation of this catastrophe. Khartoum is reported to have fallen on January 26th, four days after the arrival of the British 26th, four days after the arrival of the British advance guard at Nubat, on the Nile. General Gordon had sent five of his six steamers, with 500 negro troops, down the river to await the coming of the rescuers. It is possible that this proved to be a fatal mistake. The garrison may not have been strong enough to dispense with so large a detachment; and certainly the flottle remotity. renough to dispense with so large a detachment; and certainly the flotilla, armed with guns and protected with iron, must have been indispensable for the protection of the town. The absence of the steamers may have enabled the Mahdi's ment; followers to approach Khartoum; and treachery within the walls may have di-vided the garrison and given an entrance to the enemy. False reports of the massacre of General Stewart's force may have been circulated by Arab spies, and the population may have deserted General Gordon in sheer desperation. Or it is possible that the British commander at Gubat was lured by false intelligence into sending a weak force up the river to Khartoum and that the fate of the town had been decided before the rescuers reached their present intrenched position. The tidings of the disaster are so unintelligible that all these conjectures may be entertained. But, unfortunately, there can be no doubt as to the magnitude of the disaster which has befallen the British arms. Not only has General Wolseley's expedition arrived on the upper Nile too late to effect the deliverance of General Gordon, but the dangers to which it is exposed have been multiplied.

The centure of the capital of the Soudan.

The capture of the capital of the Soudan will reinvigorate the Mahdi's prestige and kindle the fires of fanaticism anew throughout the Nile Valley. On the seaboard and in the deserts alike it will be recognized as a in the deserts alike it will be recognized as a sign of the velidity of his divine pretensions. It will revive the drooping spirits of his warriors who have been defeated by the English invaders; it will widen the area of disaffection in the Nile Valley, and it will rally to his support the treacherous tribes with which the divided columns of General Wolseley's forces are surrounded. The fame of General Gordon has become one of the traditions of the desert. To have overpowered his garrison and to have taken him captive will be overwhelming evidence in the eves of his followers of the Mahdi's in the eyes of his followers of the Mahdi's divine mission to restore the glory of Islam. Fanaticism, with a great victory behind it, Transitions, with a great victory behind it, will spread like wildfire in the desert wastes. General Wolseley's scattered columns with their long lines of communication may speedily find themselves in a critical position. The danger has increased tenfold.

The fall of Khartoum is the crowning disaster for which a long series of blunders and fatal delays have prepared the way. The English, after Tel-el-Kebir, were responsible for whatever happened in the Nile Valley. They had invaded Egypt and assumed control over the Khedive's administration; and the Soudon was his Empire. If they were not prepared to accept the responsibility of governing that Empire they ought not to have bombarded Alexandria nor fought at Tel-el-Kebir. Responsibility was systematically shirked; Hicks' army was allowed to be massacred on the White Nile, and Baker's on the seaboard; the evacuation of the Soudan was peremptorily ordered when it was im-The fall of Khartoum is the crowning diswas peremptorily ordered when it was impracticable for the garrisons to withdraw; and every attempt to rescue the imperiled forces has been made too late to be of any avail. There has been as much bloodshed as vacillation and indecision, and the slaughter of the natives has never accomplished any useful purpose. General Gordon was sent to Khartoum to work a miracle and he succeeded for a year in making negroes fight for him and in governing the city without a dollar in the treasury and without a European to help him. But in the end the miracle-worker failed. There will be more bloodshed now; Khartoum must be recaptured for the sake of British prestige, no matter what may be Anartain must be recaptured for the sake of British prestige, no matter what may be the cost of life or treasure; and when it is recaptured, it will be abandoned. This is the English Nile policy, barren as the desert sands, and reeking with blood.

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